UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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INTERIOR PUBLICATION EMPHASIZES IMPORTANCE OF WETLANDS

Announcement of the release of a new Department of the Interior publication Your Stake in Wetlands was made today at the annual meeting of the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners in Jackson, Wyoming.

The publication, Fish and Wildlife Service Circular 140, describes what wetlands are, their importance to people from all walks of life, and what is happening
to these important areas. Wetlands not only produce ducks and geese, but also provide habitat for other birds and many big game animals. Practically all our major
furbearers are wetland inhabitants, and shrimp, oysters, and other valuable seafood
species, as well as many marine fish species, depend on wetlands in the form of
salt marshes and shallow bays during some part of their lives.

The most important value of farm ponds, marshes, and other wetland areas is the recreational opportunities they provide for everyone. Picnickers, hikers, campers, photographers, and bird watchers, as well as hunters and fishermen, turn to wetlands for much of their recreation.

Your Stake in Wetlands points out that, although the Fish and Wildlife Service is planning to spend \$105 million from a repayable loan fund for the purchase or lease of more wetlands, most wetlands must remain in private ownership as a trust for our present and future citizens.

Fish and Wildlife Service Circular 140, Your Stake in Wetlands, is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. The price is 15 cents.

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